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From Kendall's Expositor.

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL."

Dialogue between a Deacon and his Minister on the subject of the Presidential Election.

Deacon—I come to advise with you as to the course which, as a Christian, I ought to pursue in the next presidential election.

Minister—Well, what are your difficulties?

Dea.—I am a true Whig, and hope a true Christian. In 1828 I was much inclined to vote for General Jackson on account of the great services he had rendered the country, but you advised me that as a true Christian, I could not do so, because he had set at defiance the laws of God and man by fighting a duel. The Whigs now present us a candidate for the Presidency who has fought two duels, and been accomplice in a third. What am I to do?

Min.—I have heard that Clay was a duelist, but have never inquired into the particulars.

Dea.—I have; for I thought it my duty to do so when called on to put him at the head of the nation to see the laws faithfully executed. Shall I give you the particulars?

Min.—Go on.

Dea.—Here is a "Biography of Henry Clay" written by his particular friend, George D. Pringle. At page 30 we are told that he accepted a challenge from Col. Daviess; but it was adjusted. At page 45 is an account of his first duel. Here are the words of his Biographer: viz.

"Mr. Clay brought a resolution before the house [the Kentucky House of Representatives] that each member, for the purpose of encouraging the industry of the country, should clothe himself in garments of domestic manufacture. This resolution called into exercise all Mr. Marshall's talents of vituperation. He denounced it as the project of a demagogue, and applied a variety of epithets to its author which no parliamentary rules could justify. Mr. Clay's language in reply was probably of a harsh character, and the quarrel proceeded from one stage to another, till according to the laws of honor, which every Kentuckian of that day was taught to reverence, no alternative remained to Mr. Clay, and he was required to challenge his antagonist. The challenge was accepted. The parties met, and the first shot was exchanged without other effect than a slight wound of Mr. Marshall. On the second or third trial, Mr. Marshall's ball gave Mr. Clay, a slight flesh wound in the leg, and the seconds now interfered and prevented a continuance of the combat."

This account is given by a friend and apologist. But it shows that Mr. Clay was the challenger and that twice or thrice, he deliberately attempted to take away the life of a fellow man.

Min.—But does not the Historian say, Mr. Clay has repented of this early crime?

Dea.—He says "we have no doubt, that Mr. Clay erred in this affair with Mr. Marshall, and it is said that he himself looks back to the incident with disapprobation and regret." If there had been any sincere repentance it would have shown itself in his subsequent conduct. So far from that, some seventeen years afterwards, he publicly proclaimed his determination to commit the same crime if he could find an antagonist, and the next year did commit it!

Min.—Let us have the particulars.

Dea.—Prior to the election of President by the House of Representatives in 1825, it was charged in a letter published in Philadelphia, purporting to be written by a member of the House, that Mr. Clay had bargained to make Mr. Adams President on condition of receiving preferment at his hands whereupon Mr. Clay published a card in the newspapers which concluded as follows, viz.

"I pronounce the member, whoever he may be, a BASE and INFAMOUS CALUMNIATOR, A DASTARD AND A LIAR; and if he dare unveil himself and avow his name, I will hold him responsible, as I here admit myself to be, to call the laws which govern and regulate the conduct of men of honor."

H. CLAY.

Mr. Clay was then Speaker of the House of Representatives, and it was from that high station that he thus hurled defiance at the laws of God and man, shocking all the moral and religious feelings of this great nation.

Min.—But no duel grew out of that, I believe.

Dea.—No, but it was not in consequence of any retractation or repentance on the part of Mr. Clay, as the events of the next year amply demonstrate.

Min.—Go on.

Dea.—Mr. Adams was elected President by the aid of Mr. Clay's vote and influence, and appointed Mr. Clay Secretary of State. In a speech in the Senate at the next session of Congress, John Randolph characterised the coalition of known political enemies, as the union of the "Eastern Puritan with the Western Blackleg."

Mr. Clay immediately sent him a challenge. Mr. Clay's Biographer has not thought proper, in the text of his work, to give us any account of this duel; but in the newspapers of the day, I

find the following official account of the meeting, viz:

"On Saturday, the 8th April, at half past four o'clock, a meeting took place between Mr. Clay and Mr. Randolph, upon a call of the former, in consequence of a certain expression used by the latter in a recent debate in the Senate, which Mr. Clay considered offensive, and applied personally to him.

"Mr. Randolph was attended by Col. Tainall, of Georgia, and Major Hamilton of South Carolina. Mr. Clay by Gen. Jussup of the Army, and Mr. Johnson of Louisiana.

"The parties met on the ground—exchanged salutations, and took their stations.

"The pistol of Mr. Randolph, which was suspended by his side, went off. It was perceived to be an accident, and so pronounced by Mr. Clay; immediately however, upon the report of the pistol, Mr. R. turned to Col. T. and said: 'I told you so.' Col. T. then turning to Gen. J. observed, 'Sir, the fault is mine—Mr. R. protested against the use of the hair trigger—it was sprung.' Another pistol was handed to Mr. R.—The parties resumed their stations and exchanged shots without effect.

"Immediately after the report of the pistols, while Col. T. and Gen. J. were re-loading, Col. Benson, of Mo. rode up, and united with Mr. Johnson and Col. Hamilton in an effort to stop the affair, which proved ineffectual. The parties again took their stations, and the word being given, Mr. Clay raised his pistol and fired, and the ball passed through Mr. R's clothes. Mr. R. reserved his fire—holding his pistol perpendicularly up—said, 'I do not fire at you, Mr. Clay; it was not my intention to have fired at you at all; the unfortunate circumstance of my pistol going off accidentally, changed my determination.' At this instant, Col. Benson came upon and said 'Yes, Mr. R. told me so expressly, eight days ago.' The parties simultaneously approached towards each other, both with extended hands—Mr. R. remarking, 'Sir, I give you my hand,' which was received by Mr. Clay; and the affair thus happily closed."

Min.—But look here; Mr. Clay's Biographer in his Appendix, page 293, notices this duel, and says Mr. Clay "regrets this incident." He gives an extract from Mr. Clay's address to his fellow citizens soon after the duel, in which he says—

"I owe it to the community to say, that whatever heretofore I may have done, or, by inevitable circumstances, may be forced to do, no man holds in deeper abhorrence than I do, the pernicious practice of duelling. Condemned as it must be, by the judgment and philosophy, to say nothing of the religion, of every thinking man, it is an affair of feeling, about which we cannot, although we should, reason. The true correction, to unite, in its unqualified proscription."

Dea.—I had observed that passage and reflected upon it. I will endeavor to give the views it suggests.

1. To kill in a duel is MURDER by the laws of God and man.

2. According to Mr. Clay's reasoning, murder of this sort is to be excused because it is "an affair of feeling." Otherwise he is without excuse.

3. All malicious murder is "an affair of feeling," and is excusable on the same ground.

4. How can all unite "in its unqualified proscription," when men like Mr. Clay, whom society recognizes as its leader, apologize for the crime and persist in committing it?

5. So far from promising reformation in this address, Mr. Clay, avows that he "may be forced" to fight again. What is his "deeper abhorrence" worth with this avowal on his lips?

6. Is it not the surest way to arrive at that "unqualified proscription" which Mr. Clay says is "the true correction," for "all" to unite in the "unqualified proscription" from the high offices of the country, of all who are guilty of this awful crime?

Min.—I believe the blood of no murdered man is upon Mr. Clay's head.

Dea.—I am not certain of that. But be that as it may, it is no apology for Mr. Clay that he did not succeed in his murderous design. The reason why the blood of Randolph does not rest on his head, is thus lightly given by his Biographer, pages 299-300: viz. "In due time the parties fired and luckily for them or at least for Mr. Clay, Mr. Randolph's life was saved by his gown. The unseemly garment constituted such a vast circumference, that the locality of the thin and swarthy Senator was at least a matter of very vague conjecture. Mr. Clay might as well have fired into the outspread top of an oak, in the hopes of hitting a bird he supposed to be snugly perched somewhere among the branches. His ball hit the center of the visible object, but Randolph was not there—and of course the shot did no harm and no good."

This shows that if the blood of Randolph does not rest on Mr. Clay's head, it is not for lack of malice or of deadly aim.

Min.—But you say you are not sure that the blood of the murdered does not rest on Mr. Clay's head: What did you refer to?

Dea.—To the murder of Mr. Cilley in 1838.

Min.—Why Mr. Clay had nothing to do with that.

Dea.—You are greatly mistaken: He was Mr. Graves' adviser from the beginning until he went out to fight, and was clearly an accomplice in the murder.

Min.—What authority have you for that?

Dea.—The authority of Mr. Clay's particular friends and of Mr. Clay himself. You may remember, that Mr. Graves of Kentucky was the bearer of a challenge from James Watson Webb to Mr. Cilley for words spoken in debate. Mr.

Cilley verbally declined accepting the challenge, for reasons which were entirely satisfactory to Mr. Graves. But upon consultation with Mr. Clay, it was determined to require Mr. Cilley to put his reasons in writing, and to state among other things that he considered James Watson Webb a gentleman. This he refused to do, because he could not in conscience, and for not admitting that to be true which he knew to be false, Mr. Graves challenged and killed him. And this he did under the advice of Henry Clay as I shall show.

Here is a letter from Mr. Clay to Henry A. Wise dated Feb. 23, 1842, in which Mr. Clay says:—

"I did not know that Mr. Graves bore a note from Col. Webb to Mr. Cilley until after the delivery of the note and after Mr. Graves received from him a verbal answer. In that stage of the transaction, for the first time, Mr. Graves communicated the matter to me, and I congratulated him on the fact that answer being perfectly satisfactory and such as to absolve him from all obligation to pursue the affair further. On conversing together, we both agreed that, to guard against future misunderstanding and misrepresentation, it was desirable that Mr. Cilley should put in writing what he had verbally answered."

Upon this advice Mr. Graves required a written statement from Mr. Cilley containing a concession that Mr. Webb was a gentleman; and not being able to obtain it, he returned to Mr. Clay for further counsel. In reference to what then passed, Mr. Clay says in the same letter:—

"When on the day preceding the duel, Mr. Graves in company with you, came to my room, I was informed that he had determined to challenge Mr. Cilley, and he showed me the challenge which he had drawn. Upon reading it, I thought it closed the door to all accommodation, stated that objection and sketched a draught in my own handwriting which would admit of an amicable adjustment."

This draught in Mr. Clay's own handwriting, was copied by Mr. Graves and sent to Mr. Cilley. It was in the following words, viz:—

WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 23, 1838.

Hon. J. Cilley:

As you have declined accepting a communication which I bore to you from Col. Webb, and as by your note of yesterday, you have refused to decline on grounds which would exonerate me from all responsibility growing out of this affair, I am left no other alternative but to ask that satisfaction which is recognised among gentlemen. My friend, Hon. Henry A. Wise, is authorized by me to make the arrangements suitable to the occasion.

Your obedient servant,

W. J. GRAVES.

From a statement published by Messrs. Wise and Jones (the seconds) after the duel, it appears that Mr. Jones stated to Mr. Wise (when Mr. Cilley accepted the challenge,) that he "was authorized by Mr. Cilley to say, that in declining to receive the note from Mr. Graves, purporting to be from Col. Webb, he meant no disrespect to Mr. Graves, because he entertained for him then, as he does now, the highest respect and the most kind feelings; but that he declined to receive the note because he chose not to be drawn into any controversy with Col. Webb."

Yet, after this second disavowal any disrespect to Mr. Graves, was thus dual pushed, under the advice of Mr. Clay, to a fatal termination.

But this was not the last of Mr. Clay's agency. He was duly informed of the acceptance of the challenge written by him, and of the arrangement to fight with the deadly rifle. In the same letter he says:—

"My belief is, that I never saw the terms according to which the combat was to be conducted, prior to the duel, although I think they were stated and explained to me, probably by you."

(Mr. Wise.)

That he was in possession of all the particulars, is proved by the statements of Charles King and Reverdy Johnson, Esqrs. published by Mr. Clay himself, in which the former says, Mr. Clay showed them the papers, but the latter says:—

"At neither interview were we shown the written challenge and acceptance of the terms of the duel, but had them explained to us only by Mr. Clay."

By Mr. Clay's own evidence, therefore, it appears, that he advised the written correspondence which led to the duel; and that he knew the terms on which they were to fight.

Min.—Well, when he knew that the parties had arranged to commit mutual murder, did he not invoke the power of the law to prevent it?

Dea.—So far from that, he directly refused to do so! In the letter already referred to, Mr. Clay says:—"Being the friend of Mr. Graves, I could not invoke the authority of the police to prevent the duel."

His friends, Messrs. Charles King and Reverdy Johnson, concur in stating, that on their urgent appeal to Mr. Clay to aid in arresting the duel, Mr. Clay replied in substance, "that we saw how he was situated. Mr. Graves had consulted him. He ought not, he said, to have been consulted; but having been, the honor of his friend who was the challenger, might be compromised by any advances on his (Mr. Clay's) part to arrest the progress of the affair."

These gentlemen found Mr. Graves with Mr. Clay on that occasion, it then being past six o'clock in the evening, and early the next morning the awful murder was consummated almost in sight of the Capitol!

Mr. Clay says, he did not expect the duel to be fought the next day, because Mr. Graves had not at that time procured a rifle; but Mr. Clay's colleague from Kentucky in the Senate, and one of his particular friends in the House, borrowed one

about twelve o'clock at night with which the fatal deed was consummated in the morning.

Mr. Wise who was Mr. Graves' second had always declared, that the duel was caused by Mr. Clay's advice which differed from his own; and Mr. Clay says in his letter:—

"I admit, without any reservation whatever, that on all the points of the controversy respecting which he (Graves) asked my opinion, I gave it to him freely, according to the best of my judgment."

It thus appears:—

That Mr. Clay helped to concert this murder: And

That when the plan was all complete, he refused to aid in arresting it.

Does not the blood of Cilley rest on Mr. Clay's head?

Min.—But Mr. Graves was Mr. Clay's friend, and he says he was bound to give advice when asked.

Dea.—That may be; but can any man lawfully advise his friend to commit murder? Can any man, knowing that a murder was in contemplation, acquit himself of his duty to God and man without taking efficient steps to prevent it? With Mr. Clay, this was not "an affair of feeling" like his duel with Randolph. He at least could "reason" in this case.

Min.—Is your case fully stated?

Dea.—No; I have one point more. The Constitution of the United States says:—

"For any speech or debate in either house, they [the members of Congress] shall not be questioned in any other place."

When Henry Clay was appointed Secretary of State in 1825, he took the following oath prescribed by law, in pursuance of the constitution:—

"I, HENRY CLAY, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States."

Yet, the words for which he challenged and attempted to kill John Randolph were spoken in debate in the Senate of the United States. If Mr. Clay had been a private citizen, this challenge would have been a violation of the constitution; being Secretary of State, and under oath to support that instrument, it was not only a violation of the constitution, but of his SWORN COVENANT WITH GOD.

How can I, as a Christian, or a good citizen, support for President a man who not only violates the most sacred laws, human and divine, but sets at naught his SOLEMN OATHS? What will become of our laws, our constitution or our country, when a man who is capable of becoming so excited by "an affair of feeling," that he cannot reason though he should, shall hold in his hand the Executive Power of this great Republic?

Graves, the principal in this tragedy, is now spreading out his bloody hands to the people of Kentucky, imploring them to vote for his principal!

Is this fit company for Christians?

Minister—I confess you have made out a stronger case against Mr. Clay than I supposed possible. He has twice shown himself willing to commit murder in duels, and twice attempted it.

He has aided and counseled another in pursuing unto Death, a fellow man, who had repeatedly disavowed all personal disrespect or unkindness towards his pursuer, simply because he refused to admit what he believed to be untrue. For this cause only, a happy wife was made a weeping widow, and little children fatherless.

He has violated at the same time, the constitution of his country and his oath before his God.

I have now to repeat the advice given you in 1828; for in some respects, Mr. Clay's crimes exceed those of Gen. Jackson.

We of the Whig Party profess to be the friends of religion, law and order. If true to this profession, we cannot vote for men who set at defiance man's laws, and God's laws, and rush to the commission of crime over the constitution and their oaths.

Nay, I am not sure that we ought not, if our Whig leaders persist in pressing on us such a candidate, to take the most effectual way to prevent his election by voting for his opposite.

Man.—Man is sent naked into the world—feeble and helpless—unendowed with the wings of the bird, the swiftness of the stag, the tortuous speed of the serpent without means of defence against the claws or dart of an enemy, nay, against even the inclemency of the weather. He has no shell, no fleece, no covering of fur; nor even a den or burrow for his hiding place. Yet, by the force of his natural power, he has driven the lion from his cave, despoiled the bear of his shaggy coat for a vestment, and the bull of his horns to form a drinking cup. He has dug into the entrails of the earth to bring forth elements of future strength; the very eagle, in traversing the skies, finds himself struct down in the midst of his career, to adorn his cap with a trophy of distinction.

In Missouri, if they wish to get rid of a man they put him in the penitentiary. He is sure to get out and run away.

Of all thieves fools are the worst, they rob you of time and temper.—Goethe.

"EDUCATION'S RIZ." A precocious youth in one of our country towns had arrived to the age of nine years, when his father sent him to school. He stood before the teacher, to repeat the letters of the alphabet. "What is that?" asked the master. "Harrow," vociferated the urehlin; "No, that's A." "A!" "Well, what's the next?" "Ox-yoke." "No, that's B." "Taint B, neither, it's an ox-yoke; croteh all hemlock! Gosh ninety! think I don't know!"

THE ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY.

To describe the Atmospheric Railway in all its details, would occupy more space than we can devote to the subject, neither would such a description suit the general reader; the following particulars must therefore suffice:

Along the entire line, and between the rails, runs a pipe, which, on the Kingston and Dalkey line, is fifteen inches in diameter. Along the entire length of this pipe is a slit or opening, through which a bar passes, connecting a piston (which moves freely in the pipe) with the carriage outside. The opening at the top of the pipe is covered with leather strap extending the whole length of the pipe, and two inches broader than the opening. Under and over this leather strap are riveted iron plates, the top ones twelve inches & half an inch broader than the opening, the bottom ones narrower than the opening, in the pipe, but the same length as those at the top. One edge of the leather is firmly screwed down, like the common bucket valve, and forms a hinge on which it moves. The other edge of the valve falls into a groove; this groove or trough is filled with a composition, made of beeswax and tallow, well worked by hand, so as to make it pliable and tough, before spreading it in the groove; this composition being pressed tight against the edge of the leather valve which rests in the groove, makes the valve air tight, or at least sufficiently so for all practical purpose. As the piston is moved along the pipe by the pressure of the atmosphere, that side of the valve resting on the groove is lifted up by an iron roller, fixed on the same bar to which the piston is attached; thus clearing an opening for the bar to pass as it moves along.

The opening thus made allows the air to pass freely behind the piston, the disturbance which takes place in the composition after the lifting of the valve, is again smoothed down and rendered air-tight as at first, by a hot iron running on the top of the composition after the valve is shut down. This has actually been done when the piston was travelling at the rate of seventy miles per hour, and was smoothed down air-tight after it by the iron above mentioned. It is contemplated to place stationary engines along the line about three miles apart; at each engine or station there is an equilibrium valve fixed in the pipe, so that each three miles or sections of pipe can be either exhausted or filled with air independently of the other sections. The equilibrium valve is made to move freely out of the way of the piston by the carriage while passing it; so that the train passes from one section of pipe to another, without any stoppage. It is evident, that as the tractive force is derived from the pressure of the piston, the amount of atmosphere on the of the force or pressure will depend upon two causes, i. e. the extent of exhaustion on one side of the piston, and the area of the piston itself. On the Kingston and Dalkey line, the diameter of the piston is fifteen inches; the usual working exhaustion is from eighteen to twenty inches, which propels six carriages filled with passengers (amounting to about thirty five tons,) up an incline, averaging 1 in 120; at the rate of forty-five miles per hour.

Having now given such a description of the Atmospheric Railway as will, we hope, render its operation intelligible to those at all conversant with mechanics, we will proceed to point out its principal advantages over other modes of locomotion.

First. Economy in construction. A single line is sufficient for all purpose, which will convey more trains at a given time, than any existing railway with two lines; this immense advantage arises from its velocity, averaging forty-five miles per hour.

Secondly. Economy in working, being propelled by stationary engines taking about one fourth of the fuel of a locomotive to do the same work, and saving the transit of the heavy engine and tender, amounting to twenty tons upon the average, and the carriages for the passengers not being subject to jolts and concussions, their weight may with perfect safety be reduced to one half of the present weight; this again reduces the wear and tear of the line; much smaller timber being required for the railway bars to rest on, and the bars themselves only about one third the weight required for a locomotive engine to travel on.

Thirdly. Safety. By the principle of working by the pressure of the atmosphere, one train cannot by any possibility overtake the one preceding it, however soon it starts after it; for should it, get into the same section of pipe as the preceding train, the power which propels the last, will cease, until the train which is in advance leaves the same section of pipe; and, from the same cause, trains travelling in an opposite direction cannot come in collision; for directly they enter the same section of pipe, the power which propelled them both ceases, and the trains stand still.

The power which propelled gives the impetus to the train is one undeviating pull, perfectly free from jerks of any kind; and when the rails are properly laid, the sensation of locomotion, (except for apparently moving objects outside, and a trifling noise) nearly ceases; so that an invalid or weary traveller may recline on a coach in the carriage, with as little fatigue as if lying on his sofa at home; though travelling at the rate of forty-five miles per hour.

